



PORT BLAKELY
TREE FARMS LP

Integrity and Innovation since 1864

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Permit Specialist
Protected Resources Division
National Marine Fisheries Service
1201 NE Lloyd Blvd., Suite 1100
Portland, OR 97232

We request modification of ESA Section 10 Permit #1336, titled “Factors limiting fish distribution in Western Washington and Oregon: an evaluation of headwater streams”, to 1) incorporate coho salmon take as a result of recent changes to ESA listing status for this species in the Columbia River; and 2) extend the expiration date of the permit to December 31, 2010. The request affects the Expiration Date and Section A, Take Descriptions and/or Levels, of the Permit; all other sections of the application remain unchanged.

The purpose of this research is to evaluate factors limiting the distribution of fishes in streams on Port Blakely’s ownership. Part of this study involves electroshocking streams using the guidelines established by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). Specifically, this study examines landform characteristics of streams and other physical features to quantify conditions that appear to limit fish distribution in upper reaches of streams on our ownership in Washington and Oregon. In addition, we are assessing fish habitat characteristics including large woody debris placement, water quality, and substrate. This project is part of a baseline data collection effort that is being used to develop management prescriptions and conservation measures for riparian areas on Port Blakely’s timberlands.

The numbers of listed fish requested to be taken were derived from prior sampling activities (1996-2004). During these activities, Port Blakely Tree Farms biologists have surveyed streams on approximately 130,000 acres in Western Washington and Oregon to determine fish presence. During this 9-year sampling period, less than 0.1 % mortality has occurred for all fish species surveyed. The attached table shows the requested take levels by type and life history stage.

If you have any questions concerning this request, please contact Blake Murden at bmurden@portblakely.com or 360-596-9437.



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Table 1. Requested annual take levels for modification of ESA permit #1336.

ESU/Species	Origin	Life Stage	Take Activity	# Fish Authorized for Take	Additional # Fish Requested to be Taken	Authorized Unintentional Mortality	Requested Unintentional Mortality	Research Location	Research Period
Upper Willamette River (UWR) Chinook salmon	Natural	Juvenile	Capture, handle, release	25	0	1	0	Clackamas County, OR	March - June
Lower Columbia River (LCR) Chinook salmon	Natural	Juvenile	Capture, handle, release	25	0	1	0	Lewis County, WA and Clackamas County, OR	March - June
Upper Willamette River (UWR) steelhead	Natural	Juvenile	Capture, handle, release	50	0	1	0	Clackamas County, OR	March - June
Lower Columbia River (LCR) steelhead	Natural	Juvenile	Capture, handle, release	50	0	1	0	Lewis County, WA and Clackamas County, OR	March - June
Oregon Coast (OC) Coho salmon	Natural	Juvenile	Capture, handle, release	50	0	1	0	Douglas and Coos Counties, OR	March - June
Lower Columbia River (LCR) Coho salmon	Natural	Juvenile	Capture, handle, release	0	50	0	1	Lewis County, WA and Clackamas County, OR	March - June